

**COMMISSION ON TECHNOLOGY
e-COURT SUBCOMMITTEE
APPELLATE COURTS SUBTEAM
MEETING SUMMARY**

October 21, 2011
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

State Courts Building Room 415

**SUPREME COURT MEMBERS
PRESENT**

Vice Chief Justice Andrew Hurwitz
Clerk Rachelle Resnick
Staff Attorney Ellen Crowley

**APPEALS DIVISION ONE
MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chief Judge Larry Winthrop
Vice Chief Judge Pat Irvine
Clerk Ruth Willingham
James Townsend

**APPEALS DIVISION TWO MEMBERS
PRESENT**

Clerk Jeff Handler*
Chief Judge Joe Howard*

AOC STAFF & GUESTS

Stewart Bruner, *ITD*
Karl Heckart, *ITD*
Jim Price, *ITD*

* indicates appeared via telephone

AZTURBOCOURT STATUS AND SCHEDULE

Clerk Rachelle Resnick indicated that e-filing numbers continued to increase slightly in September but that changes necessary to implement the central case index (CCI) lookup feature prevent her from recommending any date for enacting mandatory e-filing. Attendees talked through the upcoming changes and their likely impact. Justice Hurwitz reminded the group of the benefits to both attorneys and the clerks' offices once e-filing becomes mandatory. The clerks estimated the number of party name mismatches occurring per month and Karl Heckart gave some perspective on the way upcoming application changes might affect users. He felt the CCI-related changes would be far enough in the future that holding up mandatory e-filing for them is unwarranted. Justice Hurwitz directed that preparations be made for a February 1, 2012, mandatory e-filing date at Division One and the Supreme Court. Next month's meeting will include Janet Johnson from AOC Court Services Division and will focus on all aspects of the preparations for the February 1 date. Mental health cases can remain on paper for the moment.

ADDRESSING eSIGNATURE CONCERNS

Staff Attorney Ellen Crowley reported on her conversation with Bill Klain from the State Bar about receiving formal direction on the Civil Rule 58 requirement that orders and judgments be signed. Justice Hurwitz will join Ellen in a return to call to Mr. Klain to continue discussing changes to paper-based practices and related rules. The consensus on signature is that some other method needs to exist whereby judges denote the completion of adjudication on a case, possibly something as simple as adding "this is a final

judgment” to the document, rather than relying on the traditional signature and forcing electronic processes to accommodate the paper paradigm.

RESEARCH FEE FEASIBILITY

Stewart Bruner reported that AOC Legal Services determined Division One’s fee-related legislation would have to be changed to allow a research fee to be assessed. Clerk Ruth Willingham shared her intention to drop the idea and maintain the per page copy fee.

OTHER UPDATES AND ISSUES

- Karl Heckart provided details about the efforts underway to replace PayPal or at least broaden the payment options for users of AZTurboCourt.
- Rachelle Resnick provided a handout and feedback from the pilot users meeting she held on September 28. She provided updates on various issues raised in the meeting that are already being addressed.
- Judge Irvine thanked the AOC for recent changes to Appellation that result in easier use for judges.

WRAP UP

A follow-up meeting will be scheduled the week of November 14 to focus on activities in support of a February 1 date for mandatory e-filing at Division One and the Supreme Court. Stewart, Rachelle, and Ruth, will meet with Janet Johnson prior to that.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.